

2016 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 13

BY REPRESENTATIVES GLOVER, BAGLEY, CARMODY, HORTON, JENKINS,
MIKE JOHNSON, JIM MORRIS, NORTON, AND REYNOLDS

COMMENDATIONS: Commends the Reverend E. Edward Jones, Sr., upon his fifty-seventh anniversary as pastor of Galilee Baptist Church in Shreveport

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To commend the Reverend E. Edward Jones, Sr., of Galilee Baptist Church in Shreveport,
3 upon the momentous occasion of his fifty-seventh year pastoral anniversary.

4 WHEREAS, nationally renowned as a religious, social, and civil rights activist, the
5 Reverend Dr. E. Edwards Jones, Sr., has labored for decades in the vineyard of the Lord to
6 improve the lives of parishioners at Galilee Baptist Church in Shreveport; and

7 WHEREAS, a strong visionary, the Reverend Dr. Jones has built a faith-based
8 community in the heart of downtown Shreveport that encompasses nearly forty acres and
9 includes housing for senior citizens and low-income families, health care and schooling for
10 disadvantaged children, and financial and spiritual support; and

11 WHEREAS, born into a foundation of faith, the Reverend Dr. Jones, Sr., is the son
12 of Daisy and the Reverend David Jesse Jones, who pastored two churches and provided the
13 spiritual training that provided the basis of his ministerial progeny; and

14 WHEREAS, in 1952, E. Edward Jones married Leslie M. Alexander and the fruit of
15 this union has yielded four children: sons Deryl N. Jones and E. Edward Jones, II; daughters
16 Carolyn N. Jones-Haygood and Donna N. Jones-Hassan; and nine grandchildren; and

17 WHEREAS, after graduation from Grambling State University, E. Edward Jones, Sr.,
18 began a career as an educator by accepting the position of principal at Morehouse Parish
19 School in 1952; he became a seventh- and eighth-grade teacher at the same school from
20 1953-1959, where he also coached basketball and softball; and it was during his employment

1 at Morehouse Parish School that E. Edward Jones, Sr., became a proponent for desegregation
2 and equality for black youth; and

3 WHEREAS, the call of God was strong upon his life, and in 1959, he became a
4 minister and was called to pastor Galilee Baptist Church; while serving as pastor, Rev.
5 Jones, Sr., entered Bishop College and in 1961 earned a bachelor's degree in religion and
6 philosophy; and

7 WHEREAS, highly influenced by the words of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., the
8 Reverend Dr. Jones, Sr., developed a steadfast zeal for civil rights that has not diminished
9 through the years; soon after hosting a visit by Dr. King to Galilee Baptist Church in 1962,
10 the Reverend Dr. Jones, Sr., became a key figure in desegregating the Caddo Parish School
11 District; and

12 WHEREAS, the Reverend Dr. Jones, Sr., served as president of the National Baptist
13 Convention of America from 1985-2003, an organization composed of five thousand
14 churches with a membership of approximately two and a half million African American
15 Baptists; and

16 WHEREAS, with funding from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban
17 Development, the Reverend Dr. Jones, Sr., built supportive living residences for the elderly
18 and handicapped and has been president of these housing developments, Galilee Majestic
19 Arms, Inc., and Galilee Eden Gardens, since 1985; and

20 WHEREAS, in 2004, the Reverend Dr. Jones, Sr., brought to fruition the low- and
21 middle-income apartment complex known as Galilee City Apartments, and this complex is
22 the genesis of a master plan that will include a wellness center, a charter school, and a
23 business incubator center designed to revitalize the center of the city of Shreveport; and

24 WHEREAS, his counsel and advice are highly valued in many associations: the
25 Reverend Dr. Jones, Sr., is a member of the NAACP and Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, which
26 in 1986 honored him with the National Award for Outstanding Service; he is a board
27 member of the Governor's Commission on Race Relations and Civil Rights, the Louisiana
28 State University board of supervisors, and the Grambling State University Foundation; and

29 WHEREAS, the Reverend Dr. Jones, Sr., was named by *Ebony* magazine as one of
30 the one hundred most influential black Americans from 1986 to 2003, was elected to the

1 Grambling State University Hall of Fame in 1986, the Northwest Louisiana Hall of Fame
2 in 1992, and is the recipient of numerous honorary doctoral degrees; and

3 WHEREAS, it is fitting to laud the many accomplishments of this octogenarian who
4 remains a vital and productive pastor beloved by his flock, and it is with great pride and
5 honor that the members of the House of Representatives join in celebration with the
6 congregation of Galilee Baptist Church and the city of Shreveport upon the fifty-seventh
7 anniversary of the pastorate of the Reverend Dr. E. Edward Jones, Sr.

8 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the
9 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend the Reverend Dr. E. Edward Jones, Sr., for
10 fifty-seven faithful years of pastoring Galilee Baptist Church; does hereby express well-
11 deserved and heartiest congratulations to this long-time preacher of the Gospel; and does
12 hereby extend best prayers and hopes for continued good health and happiness in the years
13 to come.

14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted
15 to the Reverend Dr. E. Edward Jones, Sr.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HR 13 Original

2016 Regular Session

Glover

Commends Rev. Dr. E. Edward Jones, Sr., upon his 57-year pastoral anniversary.